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II. REMARKS

Before the amendments made herein, claims 1, 5 to 13, 16 - 19 and 21 - 37 are pending. Claim 37 has been canceled herein without prejudice. Accordingly, after the amendments made herein are entered, claims 1, 5 to 13, 16 to 19 and 21 to 36 will be pending.

A. Regarding the amendments.

Claims 11, 27 and 28 have been amended herein to more clearly indicate the compounds designated "Po912" and "Po821" in the specification. The claims are supported in the specification, for example, at page 21, which discloses these compounds by these designations.

Because the amendments made herein are fully supported by the specification, no issue of new matter arises.

B. Regarding the indefiniteness rejections

1. Po912 and Po821

Claims 11, 27 and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite. More specifically, the Action alleges that the limitations "DS Po912" and "DS Po821" are not recited in the specification as to what these compounds are. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

"DS Po912" and "DS Po821" are recited throughout the specification, for example, at the bottom of page 15 (regarding Figure 5) and the top of page 16 (regarding Figure 6), as well as in Tables 1 and 2 (pages 54 and 55). While it is true that these same designations are disclosed as "Po912" and "Po821" on page 21, where the formulas of these compounds are disclosed, this difference in designation is merely inadvertent. Indeed, "Po821" on page 21 is disclosed there

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as a "novel DS" meaning a novel disaccharide. This further shows that the designations 1) "DS Po912" and "DS Po821" and 2) "Po912" and "Po821" are, respectively, one and the same.

Nevertheless, to promote prosecution of the subject invention, per the Examiner's suggestion, Applicants have amended claims 11, 27 and 28 to recite the designations "Po912" and "Po821." Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

2. disaccharide units

Claims 1, 7, 11, 12, 16 to 19, 27, 28 and 30 to 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite. More specifically, the Action alleges that claims 1 and 7 recite the term "oligosaccharide" to mean "up to 10 disaccharide units," while the term is known in the art to mean "2-10 monosaccharide units." Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Claim 1 requires a "therapeutic agent comprising an oligosaccharide, wherein said oligosaccharide consists of up to about 10 saccharide units and, within said units, comprises a disaccharide of formula (I)." Further claim 7 recites the "method of claim 1, wherein said oligosaccharide is a disaccharide of formula (I)." Neither claim uses the term "oligosaccharide" to mean a carbohydrate of "up to 10 disaccharide units," as is alleged by the Action. Rather, claim 1 requires an oligosaccharide of "up to about 10 saccharide units." Within these saccharide units (i.e., monosaccharide units), claim 1 requires a disaccharide of formula (I). Similarly, claim 7 requires that the oligosaccharide of claim 1 be a disaccharide of formula (I).

In summary, neither claim 1 nor claim 7 recites the term "oligosaccharide" contrary to how it is commonly used in the art. To the contrary, these claims recite the term in accordance with its accepted meaning in the art. For this reason, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

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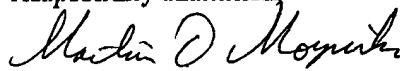
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III. CONCLUSION

All of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed and are believed to have been overcome. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that all the claims under examination in the subject application are allowable. Therefore Applicants respectfully request a Notice of Allowance to this effect.

Respectfully submitted,



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